



LRAC Art Headlines



LRAC News Brief

A LRAC Adapts to Coronavirus Impact on the Arts

The Lake Region Arts Council Board has approved the following in our attempt to provide support to the artists and arts organizations that have had to postpone or cancel activities due to the Coronavirus quarantine. Please contact the LRAC office for more information, LRAC4@LRACgrants.org

- **Current grantees may apply to modify their grants to accommodate rescheduled or canceled events.**
- **For applicants who had started but not finished an application for the FY20 Career Development the deadline has been extended to May, 1.**
- **Current FY19 and FY20 LRAC non-Operating Support grantees can convert final 20% grant payments to operating support expenses.**
- **Allow FY19 and FY20 grantees to request final 20% payment, prior to holding postponed events due to the Coronavirus quarantine. This modification would be allowed if all of the grant funds have been expended by the grantee. Final reports would be filed when the postponed events have been held.**



The Lake Region Arts Council is also looking ahead to strategically plan how we can continue to carry out our mission to encourage and support the vitality of the arts in West Central Minnesota.

Over 90% of our funding comes from the State of Minnesota. The impact of the Coronavirus on the State's economy is yet unknown, we do know that our State funding will be less in the next two years. To offset these cuts, LRAC will be seeking new, additional sources of funding, to minimize the impact on our grants and services. LRAC will start their new fiscal year on July 1, 2020.

To help with our planning, we have been talking with the artists and arts organizations in our region to find out what LRAC support they would value most. There were three consistent themes:

- Be flexible in your grants so that we can adapt to unknown impacts from the Coronavirus.
- Keep as much funding in the LRAC Project, Legacy and Operating Support grants as possible.
- Look at providing an online platform that artists and arts organizations could use to offer workshop/classes, events, exhibits and hold meetings. Also provide the technical support for using the platform.

LRAC is grateful for the conversations with our regional arts partners and artists. Their

input, concerns and encouragement will guide how we plan for the challenging year ahead. We will continue to let you know how we are adapting our grants and services.

[Click here to visit LRAC Website](#)



A Coronavirus Resource for Artist and Arts Organizations

There are many online resources for financial support and Coronavirus information. A good place to start is:

NEW! National Endowment for the Arts - Grants funded by the Cares Act:
<https://www.arts.gov/news/2020/national-endowment-arts-announces-cares-act-funding-support-arts-jobs-and-help-sustain>

NEW! Artist Relief Fund: <https://www.artistrelief.org/>

NEW! Minnesota Council of Nonprofits - One Stop Shopping to See What NonProfit Funders are Doing to Respond to Covid:

https://www.minnesotanonprofits.org/docs/default-source/coronavirus/2020-grants-directory--special-edition.pdf?sfvrsn=365cf365_8

Minnesota State Arts Board Guidance to the Arts

Community: <http://www.arts.state.mn.us/news/COVID-19.htm>

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts Corona Virus Resource

Center: <http://artsmn.org/coronavirus/>

Springboard for the Arts Corona Virus resource page for artists, creatives, and organizations: <https://springboardforthearts.org/coronavirus/>

Minnesota Employment and Economic Development; response for workers and employers: <https://mn.gov/deed/newscenter/covid/>

West Central Initiative Fund: WCI Fund Covid19 resources web page link.



2020 Arts Mentorship Program Announcement: Mentorship postponed until Next Summer/2021

Tuesday evening, April 14, 2020, Maxine Adams, Executive Director of Lake Region Arts Council/LRAC presented the LRAC Board members with feedback from Arts Mentorship Program scholarship recipients, Program mentors and LRAC staff. After reviewing this information, and in light of the most recent developments with the Coronavirus Pandemic, the LRAC Board decided it is in the best interest of both students and mentors that this year's Arts Mentorship Program not move forward with an online option. Instead, they voted to postpone the mentorship until next summer/2021 in order to provide a comprehensive and successful mentorship experience by utilizing our signature "one-on-one"/in person format. The postponement until next year is contingent upon the status of the Coronavirus Pandemic and any "stay at home" instructions at that point in time.

We did not come to this decision lightly. First consideration was given to answers from a

Mentorship Survey, where the vast majority of students, although willing to do the mentorship online, ('troopers' that they are!) expressed their preference to wait until next summer to work with their mentors, who agree with this strategy. We also took into consideration the information and direction given to us by President Trump's Coronavirus Task Force.

It is an honor and privilege for LRAC to provide both students and mentors with an Arts Mentorship Program experience. Our nation needs the gifts, talent and artistic contributions of students and professional artists alike - more than ever!



Virtual and Online Activities and Events

Find Them On the LRAC Arts Calendar:
Links to Virtual Tours and Online activities!

Visit the LRAC Arts Calendar for access to virtual gallery tours or participate in virtual/online classes and workshops!



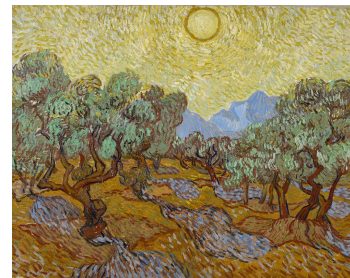
[Click here to visit the LRAC Arts Calendar](#)



Featured Virtual Event

Minneapolis Institute of Art: Explore The Art

Explore MIA's art collection from the comforts of your home. You'll find fascinating art stories and podcasts, 360-degree images and zoom views of the collection, and more to spark and nurture your creativity. For all ages!



[Click Here for Information About MIA's Virtual Tours](#)



Featured Artist

Chris Mortenson:
Photographer, Professor,
LRAC Artist Cohort

Chris Mortenson is an artist and educator based in Moorhead, MN where he is currently Assistant Professor of Art at Concordia College. His current work, *Tumulus*, was recently shown at

The Rourke Gallery and Museum. He has also shown work at Coop Gallery in Nashville, Tn; The Emergeandsee Media Arts Festival, Berlin, Germany; The Exhibition Hall, Kazan, Tatarstan, Russia; The Saarijärvi Museum, Central Finland; 5&J Gallery, Lubbock, TX; The Black Box Gallery, Portland, OR; and at South x Southeast Photogallery, Molena, GA among others.



Mr. Mortenson's work examines landscape and the relationship between our cultural ideals of place and the use of the photographic image which has shaped and sustained how Americans think and talk about landscape. The work is rooted in the notion that, at its best, the photograph is merely a trace of reality, often offering half-truths rather than an authentic representation. With this understanding, photographs are our primary source of confirmation of places that are themselves largely misrepresented as being natural or unnatural and the connotations that come with those labels. The work he makes is his way of questioning the duality between our perceived notions of landscape and the reality of the actual place.

Chris' current project, *Tumulus*, is a series of large-scale photographs about the Iron Range. It is a visual investigation of the cultural and societal complexities of a human-altered landscape that is dependent on the economical might of the mining industry, yet subject to market booms and busts.

[Click here for the Mortenson Website](#)



LRAC Gallery Exhibits

Main Gallery

LRAC galleries will be closed to the public until further notice.



[Click here for LRAC Gallery Info](#)

LRAC Solo Gallery

LRAC galleries will be closed to the public until further notice.

Sean Scott Ceramics Exhibit - Postponed until November 2020

LRAC Solo Gallery
133 S. Mill St.
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
218-739-5780



Exhibit: Nov-Dec, 2020

In 2019 Sean Scott was named an Emerging Artist by the National Council on Education of Ceramic Arts. Sean was born and raised in Dayton, Ohio. He earned a B.F.A. from Ohio University in 1996 and a M.F.A. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2005. Since then he has operated Pomme de Terre Pottery near Battle Lake, Minnesota. Sean exhibits his work nationally and teaches workshops. "I'm drawn to clay as a medium because of its physical nature, its ability to be radically transformed and because of the infinite visual and tactile expressions possible. I make pots because of their accessibility, their 'willingness' to be touched and handled. They also possess an inherent quality to draw upon content and metaphor especially as it relates to negative space, the earth, the human body, and ideas associated with sustenance and nourishment."

[Click here for Sean Scott's Website](#)



LRAC Grant Announcements

LRAC Spring Project Grants

Nine Spring Project Grants were awarded at the March Grant Review. \$19,305 will fund a variety of arts activities in the coming months. Some of the events have been postponed for now, but will hopefully be rescheduled in the future.



[Click Here for the LRAC Spring Project Grants Announcement](#)



LRAC Spring Legacy Grants

April was the month for two LRAC Spring Legacy Grant Reviews.

- Legacy Local Government and Individual Grants were reviewed on April 14.
- Legacy Organization Grants were reviewed on April 21.



Watch for the full announcement in the June Newsletter!

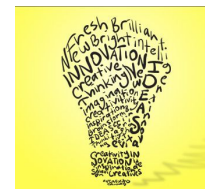
LRAC would like to extend a special thank you to the LRAC Board, the presenters and the public for their patience as we worked through our first online meetings this month.

LRAC Individual Grants

LRAC Career Development Grant -

The LRAC Board will be reviewing the Career Development Grant applications at their May Board meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

To audit the grant review, please [email](#) the LRAC office to register for the meeting.



LRAC Fellowship Grant - [The clock is ticking...](#)

\$5,000 will be awarded to one individual, open to the music or visual arts disciplines.



Fellowship is based on:

- Five year look back at your artistic accomplishments
- Impact on the regional arts and communities
- Two letters of recommendations from colleagues in the field
- Opportunities to explore and create in the coming year

Fellowship Grant Writing Webinar

- **Deadline is May 5, 2020 at 5:00 pm**
- Grant Review is June 16, 2020
- *Start Date is after July 1, 2020*

[Watch the LRAC Fellowship Grant Writing Webinar](#)



Other Opportunities

Minnesota Council for Nonprofits
E-Learning Events



MCN’s virtual trainings aren’t your ordinary webinars. In fact, while using familiar webinar software, they don’t feel like a webinar at all. Instead, they offer highly interactive trainings – combining presentations, conversations, individual reflection, and work between sessions.

Check out all of the available opportunities for the upcoming month.

[MCN Virtual Learning Opportunities](#)



LRAC Executive Director

Maxine Adams

Please contact the LRAC office for more information:
218.739.5780 or LRAC4@LRACgrants.org
LRAC4.org

Serving the LRAC region: Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, and Wilkin counties.

